

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOLUME VII.

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1899.

NUMBER 11.

FILIPINO REBELS.

Thirty of Them Killed in a Battle With Gen. Wheaton's Forces at Pasig.

CITY CAPTURED BY THE AMERICANS.

San Nicolas, Guadalupe and Pateros Was Next Attacked and Taken by Wheaton's Troops.

The American Loss Was Two Killed and Six Wounded—A Few of the Filipinos Were Taken Prisoners—A Whirlwind Campaign Has Now Begun.

March 14.—At daylight Monday Gen. Lloyd Wheaton's division, consisting of the 20th and 22d regiments of the Philippine Scouts, seven companies of the 1st Cavalry, three troops of the 1st Infantry and a mounted battery of the 9th artillery, was sent upon a ridge behind San Pedro de Macoris, a mile south of the town.

The advance was sounded at 6:30 a. m. The cavalry leading the column, at about 1000 yards from the town, eventually reaching a clump of trees on the rear of Guadalupe, supported by the Oregon volunteers, the advance force opened a heavy fire on the rebels. The response was feeble and desultory, apparently coming from a handful of men in every covert.

While the right column was swinging toward the town of Pasig, the left column, pouring volleys into the town.

A small body of rebels made a determined stand at Guadalupe church, but the enemy was unable to withstand the attack.

At 10 a. m. a river gunboat started for Pasig. The rebels were first encountered by this vessel in the jungle at Guadalupe. Steaming slowly, the gunboat poured a terrific fire from its main battery into the brush. For an hour the whirring of the machine guns alternated with the banging of the heavier pieces on board.

At the meantime Scott's battery, was shelling the trenches and driving the enemy back. The artillery advanced to the ridge of bamboo where a few of the enemy's sharpshooters were taking cover from the enemy's fire.

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At the meantime the infantry had advanced forward in extended order, the Washington regiment resting on the bank of the river, each regiment making its own supports.

The entire column then wheeled across the river, driving the enemy back to the town and then advanced to Guadalupe.

Artillery moved to a ridge commanding Pasig and Pateros.

At this time the enemy was in full retreat along a line over a mile long. The fire was discontinued temporarily to give the troops a rest.

At 2 p. m. the column came in contact with the enemy, and a gunboat moved to the firing line and opened fire on both sides, while the infantry took up a position on a hill to the right.

The first shot from the gunboat was a gun of the enemy.

After the town had been captured, the 20th regiment lined up on the left of the place, with the 22d in the center, whereupon the rebels retreated to the town.

The gunboat then moved into a bend in the river and a hot fire on the rebel position was maintained along the whole line until 2:30 p. m., when the gunboat started in the attack.

The gunboat started in the attack, and the enemy's tug, chasing the lake.

At 3 p. m. a large body of the enemy was discovered working around the town, and the 20th regiment was ordered to move forward.

The rebels were reported to be moving northward a few miles to the town.

American line bivouacked near the town.

TO TAKE CENSUS

An Army of Forty Thousand Men Will Be Employed to Do the Work.

All Applications for Office Will Receive Attention, But the Applicants Will Be Subject to a Rigid Examination Before Appointment.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—The policy that will govern the task of taking the census of 1900 was outlined in an official statement made Saturday by Director Merriam and Assistant Director Wines. Director Merriam starts for Minnesota Saturday afternoon, leaving Assistant Director Wines in charge.

On Gov. Merriam's return Dr. Wines will go home to settle his private affairs. Meantime there will be no consideration of appointments and it will be at least 30 days yet before another selection of a staff officer is made, with the probable exception of Prof. Henry Gannett, of this city, as geographer. This is in accordance with a decision of the director Saturday that in his absence there must be no promises of office nor assurances nor encouragement for any given. Several of the officials selected Thursday night have qualified and the active preliminary work will begin at once.

The statement of policy follows: "As to prospective appointments to office the services of no more staff officers can be utilized at present, and there will be no others selected within the next 30 days. Prof. Henry Gannett, the well known geographer of the geological survey, who was the political and statistical geographer of the last census, has been asked to take charge of the same work for the coming census, and if the geological survey is willing to spare him sufficiently to undertake this work he will be entrusted with it and given an absolutely free hand.

Until the schedules come back from the enumerators in July, 1900, there will be no clerks wanted save such a small skeleton force as would be needed to take care of the correspondence and office work preliminary to taking of the census. When the schedules come back there will be a large force of employees appointed. All applications for office will receive consideration and a large number already have been received and placed on file.

While the impression has gone abroad that the census is to be a refuge for incompetency, the truth and the actual facts are that all applicants will be subjected to examination before appointment, which will be as rigid as the examinations before the civil service commission. No political influence will be sufficient to put an employee on the census payroll of whose competency to do the work to be assigned him the director is not satisfied in advance. And, furthermore, if any employee is found to be incompetent on trial such employee will be discharged regardless of his or her political backing.

The examinations of employees will be directed not so much for the testing of their general information and capacity as it will be their fitness for the work to be done, as for example, no copyist who can not write or spell satisfactorily will be appointed nor calculators who can not calculate.

First of all, after the general administrative officers are selected, there must be 300 supervisors appointed and in their selection consultation will be had with senators and representatives in the respective states. It may be announced also that senators and representatives who do not belong to the republican party will receive the same fair treatment and consideration along this line that is given republicans.

This will be no small task. Assuming the population of the United States at this time to be, in round numbers, 80,000,000 people, there must be 400,000 sheets issued for the population schedule alone. Adding to these the other schedules, there will have to be in the aggregate not less than half a million sheets in printed form issued. All this mass of paper will have to be manufactured and printed without delay.

In counting the population every individual will be represented by a separate card and there will have to be manufactured and printed not less than 100,000,000 of these cards. The probability is that a system of machine calculating which admits of counting facts in combination and which worked so well in the last census will be adopted for that of 1900. The office will have to select from the various devices the one most satisfactory, and a sufficient number to do the work must then be manufactured. The work will be pushed with all possible speed consistent with accuracy and every effort made to avoid dragging the work along unnecessarily. Taken all in all, the complete number of appointments that will be made in the course of the census will be over 45,000.

Fire at Mountain Grove, Mo.

MOUNTAIN GROVE, Mo., March 13.—Eight brick business buildings with contents were destroyed by fire Saturday. It was only by the most heroic efforts the remainder of the business portion was saved.

Walter H. Loomis, editor of the Advertiser, fell from the roof of his two-story building, sustaining injuries which may prove fatal.

Loss to stocks of goods will aggregate \$100,000. Green & Hughes, general merchandise, alone lose \$40,000. Loss to buildings, \$50,000, half insured.

ARRIVED SAFELY AT MANILA.

Transport Grant, With Reinforcements in Good Condition, Reaches Her Destination—Gen. Lawton on Board.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—A cablegram received at the war department Friday, dated Manila, March 10, says that the transport Grant arrived with troops in good condition. The Arizona and Newport left Friday for San Francisco—the Arizona via Hong Kong and the Newport via Nagasaki. The Grant carried to Manila the 4th infantry and four companies of the 17th infantry.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—This adds to the troops under the command of Gen. Otis 42 officers and 1,716 enlisted men. The Grant, with Gen. W. H. Lawton in command, sailed from New York January 19.

MANILA, March 11.—The remains of Col. W. E. Smith, Maj. E. McConville, Capt. David S. Elliott and Second Lieut. Eugene S. French, who were killed in action, were shipped home Friday by the United States transport Serrada with military honors, the 2d Oregon volunteers furnishing the escort through the city.

Maj. Gen. Lawton, who arrived here Friday on board the United States transport Grant from New York on January 19, landed and formally reported to Maj. Gen. Otis, after which he returned on board the Grant. The troops that reached here on board the Grant (the 4th infantry and a battalion of the 17th infantry) will be disembarked immediately.

A battalion of the 22d infantry has reinforced Gen. Wheaton's brigade.

At 3 o'clock Friday afternoon the temperature was 80 degrees and the weather was showery.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11.—George P. Holden, of Washington, who returned from the Orient on the Hong Kong Maru, has in his possession 110 claims of the officers and men of Dewey's fleet for head money. The claims are to be filed with the court of claims in Washington for final action. The head money for Adm. Dewey and his officers and men will aggregate \$187,500, or \$100 per head for the 1,875 officers and men of Adm. Montejos's fleet.

The prize money for the officers and men under Adm. Dewey will amount to \$100,000, plus the salvage of three vessels recently raised. This money will be distributed by the United States district courts.

Speaking of Adm. Dewey, Mr. Holden said: "While somewhat worried owing to the exacting duties and responsibilities of his position, he said his health was good. He looked fairly well, too."

THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA.

The Administration Is Contemplating a Change in Some of the Features—Civil Government.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—The administration is contemplating a change in some features of the government of the island of Cuba. It is probable that the military government will, to a certain extent, be replaced with civil government. The head of the government must, of course, remain military, but the change in contemplation is to have civil officers in place of military men in the cabinet and subordinate positions. It is believed that experts in different lines, such as finance and revenue, and in the management of much of the business of the land and the different municipalities, will get along more smoothly than the army officers. It is said that the officers, being brought up under strict military discipline, hold not only the statutes, but the army rules and regulations as the guide in all things, while the civilian officers would hold the statutes as the supreme guide and endeavor to get along under them in the best manner possible and with more diplomacy than is possessed by the army men. It is not known whether the contemplated change has reached a point further than discussion in the war department and with the president, but its advantages have been pointed out, and the authority of the government to establish such a civil government under control of the military government has been determined.

Gen. Gomez Sunday issued a statement to the Cuban people and army in regard to his deposition as commander. Among other things he said: "As a sincere man, I confess I thank them, because they relieve me of great political obligations and also leave me free to return to my abandoned home, which, during 30 years of continual strife for the good of this country, that I love so much, has been my own aspiration. Foreigners as I am, I did not come to serve this country by helping it to defend its just cause as a mercenary soldier; and, consequently since the oppressive power of Spain has withdrawn from this land and left Cuba in freedom, I have sheathed my sword, thinking I had finished the mission which I had voluntarily imposed upon myself. I am owed nothing. I retire contented and satisfied at having done all I could for the benefit of my brothers. Wherever destiny rules that I make my home."

To Colonize in Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 13.—A large number of Spanish officers and soldiers who participated in the recent war in Cuba are to be colonized in the districts of Moctezuma and Arizpa, state of Sonora, where a tract comprising 33,000,000 acres has been secured.

PRESIDENT'S SOUTHERN TRIP

McKinley and Party Will Leave Washington Monday Afternoon—They Will Visit Thomasville, Ga.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—Senators Hanna saw the president Friday, and final arrangements were made for the president's trip to Thomasville, Ga. The party will leave here at 6 o'clock next Monday afternoon by way of the Atlantic coast line, and will consist of the President and Mrs. McKinley, Vice President and Mrs. Hobart, Senators and Mrs. Hanna, and Assistant Secretary Cortelyou. It is probable that the party will remain at Thomasville for a couple of weeks or longer if the public business will permit.

New Military Company.

MORGANTOWN, Ky., March 11.—The requisite number of young men of Morgantown have made application to the governor, asking to be mustered into a company of state guards. The organization will be one of the most thorough and complete in the state.

Bank Robbed.

WATPACA, Wis., March 11.—Robbers effected an entrance to the Bank of Amherst Friday, and blew open the safe. It is reported the burglars secured a good haul.

GOMEZ OUSTED.

The Cuban Assembly Dismissed Him as Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

The Assembly Has Never Been Officially Recognized by Our Government, and Its Action Is Strongly Censured by Cubans on All Sides.

HAVANA, March 13.—After six hours of violent session the Cuban assembly Saturday evening dismissed Gen. Gomez from his position as commander-in-chief of the army. The vote was 24 to 6. The first motion to abolish the position was amended to one dismissing Gen. Gomez, and leaving the post open for appointment of a successor. Many exciting scenes occurred. During the sitting on one or two occasions the deputies almost came to blows. Emanuel Sanguilly was the principal arranger of Gomez. He charged him with being a traitor to Cuba, characterized him as a cardboard Napoleon and likened him to Marie Antoinette, who, a foreigner, raised revolt among the people of the country of her adoption.

Gov. Gen. Brooke was notified Saturday night of the deposition of Gomez, and when seen Sunday morning he was much interested to learn the details of the assembly's proceedings. He said he could not express an opinion as to the effect of the assembly's action upon the future relations between Gen. Gomez and the United States, particularly in the matter of disbursing the \$3,000,000 offered by Washington to the Cuban troops as a condition of disbandment, but the impression seems to be among the American authorities that as the assembly has never been officially recognized by the United States government, its action so far as Washington is concerned will not amount to more than the resolutions of any other body of individuals.

The assembly is being strongly censured by Cubans on all sides and there were popular demonstrations Sunday afternoon in favor of the deposed commander-in-chief, the crowds shouting, "Long live Gomez!" and "Death to the Assembly!"

There is no doubt that a majority of the people support him as against the assembly. The local press will probably attack the assembly, urging its dissolution as the best thing that can happen, and insisting that there is no reason why the United States authorities may not continue to treat with Gen. Gomez in the matter of the payment to the troops. It is said on good authority that the pay rolls Gomez is preparing to hand Gen. Brooke are most complete, full and fair and that when the army learns he can aid the troops in procuring \$3,000,000, whereas it is problematical whether the assembly can obtain anything, there is little doubt as to the side the army will take in the controversy. The troops are tired of the field and insufficient food and the indications are that they would readily disband on receipt of the \$3,000,000, unless deceived by the assembly with promises of a larger payment in the event of refusing to disband.

Gen. Gomez enjoys the confidence of the American military authorities and although he says he is glad of his new found liberty since it will enable him to return home, it is not believed that he will leave Cuba at present. He has always insisted that an active share in distributing the money would fall to him and there seems no good reason why he can not continue to act as Gen. Brooke's advisor and helper.

The patriotic clubs have decided to abolish the junta patriótica, the members of which are elected by them and to establish a patriotic league in its place. Gen. Gomez, it is said, will be asked to accept the presidency of the new organization.

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Will Be Reorganized.

SPRINGFIELD, O., March 13.—In accordance with orders from the adjutant general's office, Company A of the 9th battalion, O. N. G., will be reorganized.

A Strike Settled.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 10.—The strike at the Pittsburgh Forge & Iron Co.'s plant has been settled and the works are in full operation. The men went back at the old rate.

PRICE OF ARMOR.

The Navy Department Making Figures in Regard to Its Supply.

Officials of the Navy Department Considering the Feasibility of Constructing a Government Plant—Can Armor Be Made for \$300 Per Ton?

WASHINGTON, March 10.—The navy department has been making some figures regarding the supply of armor and the prices to be paid. At present there has been authorized 25,000 tons of armor and there is available for the purchase of this armor, \$8,000,000. At the time the Bethlehem armor plant was erected there was only 6,000 tons of armor authorized by the government, and there has been purchased by the government in all only 33,074 tons of armor, 10,000 tons more than the government is now authorized to buy. The average price for armor per ton has been \$337.57, the minimum being \$332.50 and the maximum, \$377.13, the higher price being when nickel was being introduced. It is estimated by the officials of the department that in case the estimate of \$400 per ton as a sufficient price for armor are correct that the difference from the price asked, \$545 per ton, would, in the manufacture of 25,000 tons of armor, be sufficient to build a government plant. If the government could purchase the entire amount of armor authorized with the \$8,000,000 available the average price would be \$342. It is said that these figures are being considered by large iron and steel concerns. Officials at the department say that if armor can be manufactured for \$300 per ton, and the government has money to pay an average price of \$342 per ton, that the manufacturers are likely to look into the matter pretty closely, as the profit of \$42 per ton will be worth considering. In making these estimates the price of \$400 per ton is allowed for the ships already authorized under the naval appropriation act for the year ending June 30, 1899.

The figures given above have been discussed by officers of the department and representatives of the armor plate manufacturers. It has also been pointed out that the government will not need any of the armor until next February and meanwhile the armor plants of this country will be making Krupp armor for Russia. All this armor will be tested at the government grounds at Indian Head, and the navy department will have the knowledge of all the experiments and be ready to take advantage of all improvements which may be affected.

The Elclair confirms the report that the government inquiry regarding the explosion of the naval powder magazine at LaGoubran has shown that it was not of accidental origin and much credence is now given to the rumor that it was an anarchist outrage.

George Young, founder of the well known hotel in Boston which bears his name is dead at his home in Boston, as the result of a stroke of paralysis sustained on Wednesday. Mr. Young was 81 years of age. He had retired from business some twenty years ago.

The solemn Te Deum was celebrated at St. Peter's cathedral, Rome, Sunday to commemorate the pope's recovery and his coronation in the Sistine chapel on March 3, 1878. Cardinal Rampolla, papal secretary of state, officiated in the presence of an immense congregation.

William A. Doucette, 23 years old, was arrested Sunday in St. Cecilia church, Belvidere street, Boston, on the charge of embezzling \$4,000 from the collection box of the church. Marked bills placed in the box Sunday morning, were found on his person after his arrest.

A terrific windstorm visited Oklahoma City, Okla., Saturday, coming from the southwest. For half an hour it blew a perfect gale, while the rain fell in sheets. Nearly 100 houses were blown down. The oil mill and company press were damaged and nearly every smokestack in town is down.

A large steamship owner has received overtures from American agents to carry American coal to Europe at from 11 to 12 shillings freight per ton. North of England coal merchants are alarmed at the steady growth of the American coal trade to European ports that formerly took English coal.

All the brick yards at Neenah, Menasha, Kaukauna, Green Bay, De Pere, Duck Creek and Appleton, Wis., fifteen in all, have formed a combination to be known as the Fox River Brick and Tile company. The combine, which will control the brick yards of the entire valley, is capitalized at \$200,000.

Frank Gilfort, one of the Gilfort brothers, well known circus gymnasts, died Sunday at Orange, N. J. He injured his right knee cap some years ago. A few weeks ago blood poisoning set in. His leg was amputated on Wednesday in the hope of saving his life but the disease had gone too far.

According to a dispatch to the London Morning Post from Bombay, severe fighting has taken place between the Turkish troops and the Arab tribesmen near Shall in the province of Yemen, Arabia, where an insurrection has been in progress for ten months. The Turks lost 100 men and the Arabs 800.

Jean W. Holtzlander, of Chicago, the church janitor who was arrested on suspicion of having murdered his blind housekeeper, Cora Henderson, two weeks ago Friday, was given his liberty Friday. The identity of the murderer is still a mystery.

Prof. Russell H. Chittenden, of Yale university, has received notice of his appointment by the war department as one of two chemists who have been asked to analyze specimens of the beef furnished to the American troops in the Cuban campaign. Prof. Chittenden has accepted the appointment.

RECOMMENDED FOR MERCY.

Mrs. Margaret E. Cady, Convicted of Attempting to Blackmail George and Helen Gould By a Jury.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—Mrs. Margaret E. Cady has been convicted of attempting to blackmail George and Helen Gould. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty Thursday night after being out eight hours. A recommendation to mercy was made. The court will convene at 10 o'clock Friday morning when the usual motion will be heard and sentence will be passed. It is likely that Mrs. Cady will receive a light penalty, on account of her age.

The jury balloted seven times before agreeing, the first ballot standing: Guilty, 8; not guilty, 3; blank, 1. Mrs. Cady, who had remained in her chair in the court room most of the afternoon after the court adjourned, waiting to hear her fate, gasped and all but fainted when she heard the verdict of guilty. It was a quarter of an hour before she had recovered sufficiently to allow herself to be conducted back to jail.

SEGMENTAL TUBE WIRE GUN.

A Satisfactory Test of One of These Weapons Made at Birdsboro, Pa., Under Supervision of Capt. McNutt.

READING, Pa., March 30.—An official government test of the Brown segmental tube wire gun took place Thursday at Birdsboro, this county, where 50 of these guns are being built for the government. The gun is five inch caliber, weighs three and one-half tons and is 19 feet long. The tests are made under the supervision of Capt. Ira McNutt, of the ordnance department, and Edward M. Gage, government inspector, had charge of the loading and firing. The highest pressure reached was over 30,000 pounds with a velocity of nearly 3,000 feet a second. These tests will be continued for some days until probably 500 shots are fired. So far they have been highly satisfactory to the inventor, J. H. Brown, and the government officials.

Buy a Palatial Winter Residence.

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 10.—Col. Oliver Payne, of Ohio, son of ex-Senator Payne and brother of the late Mrs. Wm. C. Whitney, has purchased from S. R. Vanduzer, of New York, the latter's palatial residence at Thomasville, Ga.

A Strike Settled.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 10.—The strike at the Pittsburgh Forge & Iron Co.'s plant has been settled and the works are in full operation. The men went back at the old rate.

NEWS ITEMS.

Ex-Congressman Paul C. Edmunds died at his home in Halifax county, Virginia, Sunday.

Gen. Jimenez Castellanos, the last governor general of Cuba, has been appointed captain general of Madrid.

Five persons were killed and 40 injured in a collision between two excursion trains Sunday near Rakia, on Rakia river, South Ireland.

The Cunard line steamer Pavonia, Capt. Atkins, which became disabled and had to be towed into the Azores, arrived at Liverpool Saturday.

James Gilmore, the second of a trio of highwaymen wanted at Fergus Hills Falls, Minn., for train robbery, has been convicted of highway robbery at St. Joseph, Mo., and sentenced to eight years.

The plant of the Gray Iron Casting Co., manufacturers of iron novelties and shelf hardware at Mount Joy, Pa., was completely destroyed by fire. Loss about \$60,000; partly insured.

The body of the late Princess Bismarck will be transferred Monday from Varzin to Friedrichsruhe, where on April 1 it will be buried with the body of the prince in the Bismarck mausoleum.

Chippewa Falls, Wis., was Friday visited by a phenomenal thunder and snow storm. The snow fell for two hours at the rate of an inch per hour, accompanied by lightning and loud claps of thunder.

John Williams, aged 28, and his wife Margaret, aged 25, were asphyxiated by illuminating gas Sunday at their home 2307 Waverly street, Philadelphia. It is believed to have been due to an accident.

The old Hungarian family of Esterhazy has decided to apply to the Seine court for an injunction prohibiting Maj. Count Esterhazy from using the title and arms of the Esterhazy family, to which, it is said, he has no legal right.

Capt. Thomas W. Shields, a well known river man and a lieutenant colonel under Gen. Price in the confederate army, is dead of heart disease at Cairo, Ill. He was for many years a stockholder of the Anchor line of steamers.

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THEY ARE ANXIOUS TO FIGHT

The Troops Now in the Philippines, Whose Terms Have Expired, Are Willing to Re-Enlist.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—One of the paragraphs of the army reorganization act contained authorization for the enlistment again of the volunteer troops now in the Philippines. It was stipulated that these troops should be re-enlisted only for a period of time necessary to replace them by regular troops, in no case longer than six months. The question has been presented